

The ForKids Program

The ForKids Program is a collaborative effort uniting local service providers, school districts, and the community to ensure that children continue to receive food outside of school. The Food Bank uses a child's school backpack as a delivery system for a number of human services targeting school age children. The food bags are delivered each week to staff at local schools where they are placed in backpacks. Students retrieve the food from a counselor's office, where the transaction can remain private.

The Thurston County Food Bank provides services to elementary age children in each of the urban school districts, North Thurston, Olympia, and Tumwater as well as the Griffen School District. The program started in October 2007, with two elementary schools in the North Thurston School District this quickly grew to include eleven schools. Currently the program serves 600 children each week at 27 elementary schools.

We have heard from parents how much this means to the children, in one case mom had to walk to school and pick up the food because her son was home sick. Another mom has a special place set aside for her daughter to store her food. Counselors at several schools have heard from bus drivers that many of the kids eat the bulk of the food on the bus ride home.

We would like to thank the administration of the School Districts, the counselors, and our supporters for helping us to make a difference in the lives of children.

North Thurston School District	Pleasant Glade, South Bay, Lacey, Horizon, Lakes, Lydia Hawk, Seven Oaks, Mountain View, Olympic View, Evergreen Forest, Meadows
Olympia School District	Lincoln, McKenny , Garfield, Roosevelt, Hanson, Madison, McLane, LP Brown, Boston Harbor. Griffin School
Tumwater School District	Black Lake Elementary, Michael T. Simmons., Peter G. Schmidt, East Olympia Elementary, Littlerock Elementary.